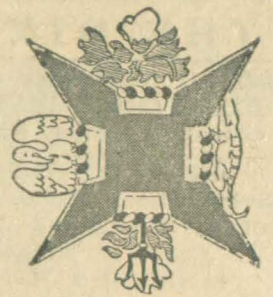




"IT SHALL BE DONE"

The DIXIE

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE DIXIE (31st) DIVISION



VOLUME 1

CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA, Saturday, May 24, 1941

Number 20

BLITZKREIG WARFARE COURSES COMPLETED BY DIXIE NON-COMS.

The two week Division Motor Patrol School closed April 24 sending back to the various regiments about 30 men, mostly non-coms, trained in this phase of blitzkrieg warfare. The school was held in the area near the division stockade under the instruction of Major Walter J. Hanna and Lieutenant Sam Williams. The graduates state that the course was one of the most interesting, lively, and instructive classes taught here so far.

The men who have received this training will be the nucleus around which will be formed the patrols that are to be the eyes and ears of the Army command in the new triangular division lightning warfare. The graduates will be instructors in the regiments, and these patrols must function equally well in peace times as in war.

During the intensive training the men studied compass use, map reading, map sketching, use of binoculars, message transmission, foot and motor reconnaissance, as well as the tactics and formation of the motor patrol.

Sergeant Hugh L. Cox, D Company, 167th Infantry, successfully completed the course. "Motor patrols must of necessity be composed of men who are highly skilled in various lines of reconnaissance work," he said. "In peace and war the duties of motor patrols will closely parallel the daring and spectacular movements of the famed parachute troops, except, of course, the men in patrols can't jump as far as the men from the sky."

Lt. Gen. Brees Speaks To Men

In an announcement this week from Lieutenant General H. J. Brees, San Antonio, Texas, relinquishing command of the Third Army, made the following statement:

"I take this opportunity of expressing to the officers, warrant officers and enlisted men of the Third Army, my sincere appreciation of their loyal and wholehearted support and cooperation. Starting practically from scratch, the Third Army has grown to over three hundred thousand officers and men. While there is still a long way to go, I am happy to say that distinct progress has been made to date. I bespeak for my successor the same loyalty and cooperation as has been extended to me."

Jokesters Mean, Says Tired Pvt.

Pretty nasty, some of these jokesters in the army. That's probably the idea of Private Ernest F. Preis of the 114th Field Artillery. He was on an overnight maneuver recently, and upon being told that Uncle Sam paid a five dollar bounty on the parachutes that lowered flares, the private used up all his energy in pursuit of them.

Y. M. C. A. Canteen

A non-profit canteen has been opened in the Starke Army Y. M. C. A., officials of the organization announced this week. The canteen will specialize in home-cooked meals.

Free games can be enjoyed by all Army personnel at the clubhouse.

POST EXCHANGE INTRICACIES EXPLAINED BY DIV. PX. OFFICER

By Lt. Col. Waldo Willis, Div. Exchange Officer

When the War Department made the decision to use Camp Blanding for the training of defense forces and a small group under the command of Col. R. H. Kelly was ordered in to staff the camp, consideration was given immediately to the establishment of a group of stores called exchanges to meet the needs of the various units to be trained and to fill the requirements of plans set forth in Army Regulations.

Accordingly, a Mess Hall in the National Guard area was pressed into service and an Exchange

Sgt. Films Camp Life At Blanding

Sgt. Paul S. Thomas of the Headquarters Battery, 114th F. A., is a popular man with his mates since he returned from Camp Shelby with his moving picture outfit. The sergeant has been showing two films, "Life at Camp Shelby," and "Life at Camp Blanding," and requests for more showings of his reels have been pouring in from batteries all over the regiment. Sgt. Thomas intends to take his apparatus with him to the summer maneuvers and film the complete story of that movement.

Dixie Soldiers See Anti-Tank Warfare Trial

Capt. Wm. B. Hardegree, commanding officer of Anti-Tank company 167th Inf., together with Sergeants Sears Lee and Arthur Jones returned Wednesday from Ft. Benning, Ga., where they attended a two-day demonstration of anti-tank warfare. The demonstration staged by the 94th anti-tank battalion of the 4th Division, included all phases of antitank tactics and defense.

Sergeants Jones and Lee said that they were particularly interested in watching the famed parachute corps practicing jumping and also enjoyed talking with the designer of the recently adapted new-type steel helmet which Army troops will wear as soon as they are distributed.

"We were impressed most," Sgt. Lee said, "by the speed with which those crack army crews handled their guns. A truck was moving thirty miles per hour pulling a gun when a whistle was sounded. The gun was unlimbered and fired within fourteen seconds from the time the whistle sounded."

Selectees Given Grand Sendoff

The recently graduated selectees of Company M and Headquarters Detachment, 3rd Battalion, 167th Infantry were feted Thursday night when the parent organizations gave a joint dinner in their honor. Mess Sergeant John W. Moore and his staff of cooks prepared a feast of grilled steaks, shoe-string potatoes, lettuce and tomato salad with french dressing, shrimp cocktail, tomato juice, apple and celery salad and apple pie a la mode. The final touch of perfection was the serving of beer to the approximately 200 thirsty throats.

Marked Man

Circus sideshows have nothing on Headquarters Co., 156th Inf. . . it has its "tattooed man" too. He's Pvt. Brewton Brewer who has nine pictures on his arms and is planning to acquire three more and a huge eagle for his chest.

RECORD BRIDGE BUILDING



In these two absorbing, timely snapshots taken by Regimental Photographer Sergeant S. T. Sorensen of the 106th Combat Engineers, are some of the steps taken by the engineers as they lay down a 220-foot bridge over Black Creek at Middleburg. On this particular occasion, the boys completed the job in the record-breaking time of 29 3-4 minutes. In the bottom photo, general construction of the bridge in the middle of the stream is shown, while at the top is the finished product as accomplished by boys of the Second Battalion.

Fan Mail Floods 116th

The 116th Field Artillery band is receiving "fan mail" concerning Sergeant A-Flat, the band's canine mascot, who was recently "sentenced" to a dog biscuit and seven laps of water a day as punishment for luring another dog to an untimely death beneath the wheels of a passing truck. One tender-hearted lady wrote in to say that: "a dog only takes one-half teaspoon of water per lap and this is not enough." Down-right technical, say the bandmen. Others deplore the treatment as inhuman. One correspondent wants a dog like A-Flat to comfort him and his lonely wife.

The boys in the band hasten to assure the alarmed public that the sentence was "suspended" and never carried out, pending A-Flat's good behavior. (And the musicians told us confidentially that "it was all in fun. Why, we'd mob anybody who tried to mistreat our mascot!")

Long & Short Known By Anti-Tank

Over in the Anti-Tank Company, 156th Inf., they think they know "the long and short" of it. The "long" is Pvt. Howard LeBlanc, six feet seven inches tall. The "short" is Pvt. Ben Wellman, who just tips 5 feet.

Men of the company claim that these are the shortest and tallest men in Camp Blanding.

In addition the company has Pvt. Alton LeBoeuf, who is six feet six and three quarters inches tall.

Writing Nights New Scheme

From now on, soldier, you won't have any excuses for not writing your loved ones back home.

Beginning this week Monday nights will be "Letter Writing Night" at the Division service club and stationery, envelopes, pens, pencils and ink will be furnished without charge to all who want to use them according to Mrs. C. W. Chalker, senior Division hostess.

Dog Doesn't Know His Master's Voice

Corporal B. V. Jones of Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 114th Field Artillery, is determined to visit his home in Starkville, Miss., often enough to be recognized. He took his first leave recently and reached his home near midnight, but spent the night sitting on the curb. The reason—his two German police dogs had grown to full size during Corp. Jones' stay at Blanding and wouldn't let him past the door.

Service Club Offers Program

Entertainment galore is being arranged at the Dixie Division service club—everything from Beethoven's Symphony to horse-shoe pitching. Mrs. C. W. Chalker, who is chief hostess for the big recreation center, has drawn up an attractive weekly schedule which is cancelled only when the 31st boys are called out on overnight exercises.

Here's a typical weekly list of events, realizing, of course that last minute changes may have to be made:

Monday—Write home and give away night. At this time, the soldiers are furnished free writing paper, envelopes and ink and are given the use of the club's tables and chairs. The boys are also furnished a dictionary to define the meaning of any high-sounding word which they may want to transmit to the girl friend. Also on this night, coat hangers are donated to the Dixie Division lads, as well as matches, magazines, etc.

Tuesday—Club night. On this occasion, service club players put on interesting little skits, and there's also fencing contests.

Wednesday—Talent night. During this period, the soldiers display their brilliant latent talents, whether it be in imitations, songs, recitations, or what have you.

Thursday—This night is open to the Dixie Division's morale officer, Colonel O. W. McNeese. At this time, Colonel McNeese puts on attractive programs which everyone should attend.

Friday and Saturday—Dance nights. Friday of this week was taken over by a movie of Fred Waring's orchestra. Saturday afternoons are occupied by the gentle art of horseshoe pitching. This sport is held outside the service club, as it can easily be seen that horseshoes would be a little harsh on the slick dance floor. Prizes are awarded to winners of this sporting event.

Sunday—Mother's Day. The featured program on the Sabbath is music by a symphony orchestra. Parents of the soldiers are shown around the club and generally entertained.

Incidentally, remarkable improvements have been made on the division's neat service club. New books are continually being added to the second-floor library; bigger and better magazines and newspapers are made available; the soldiers have the use of the piano and can bring over their own musical instruments, and generally the place has an air of distinguished and surely complete refinement about it.

"BROWNIE" ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNNING



This Alabama machine gunner is getting in some practice shots at a moving target. This is drill in defense against airplane attack. Three kinds of moving targets are used in this range practice.

Long Hikes Start; Marches Slated

HOLIDAY

An announcement from Division Headquarters today stated that a three day holiday beginning at 6:00 p. m. May 29 will be granted to officers and enlisted men in juncture with the May 30 National Memorial Day observance.

Passes granted to each unit will not exceed two-thirds of the enlisted personnel and one officer per company or battery will be left to supervise during the period.

Wednesday afternoon, May 28, normally devoted to supervised athletics, will be used instead as a drill period in recompense for the Saturday morning inspection. The holiday ends at Reveille, June 2.

Fla. University Furnishes Courses

Twenty-five soldiers of 116th Field Artillery are continuing their high school education with a special correspondence course made up by the University of Florida, Lieutenant Baldwin Wylie of Battery D announced. When the courses are completed, credits will be sent to the high school the boys attended before enlisted in the army.

It is the policy of the regiment to encourage men to enter worth while fields in the army or to engage in some study that will benefit them when they return to civilian life.

Basketers Dribble To Seven Wins

Seven victories and no defeats! That's the proud record of Company G's basketball team of the 106th Medical Regiment. So now Coach-Sergeant Joe Gendusa's cagers want games with quintets in and out of camp. On this strong team are seven New Orleans, La., boys and two basketballers from Shreveport, La. The New Orleans stars are Private Jim Bellocq, Sergeant Sidney Gihart, Private Charles Puttfark, Private Grant Bultman, Sergeant Arthur Debrueys, Private Lawrence Miller and Private Teddy Moore. Shreveport contributes Private Larry Outz and Private Powell Valentine.

Calling Lambda Chi Alpha

Sergeant Edgar H. Robertson, of the medical detachment of the 106th Engineers, seeks a reunion of all Lambda Chi Alpha members in Camp Blanding. If any soldiers are members of this national social fraternity, they are asked to get in touch with Sergeant Robertson at once. Sergeant Robertson is in hopes of arranging little get-togethers for the Lambda Chi Alpha boys.

Enemy Wreaks Havoc Here

The "enemy" patrol that prowled around in the 167th bivouac area Tuesday night on maneuvers created a furore when daylight revealed the raiders' night's work. In addition to cutting 62nd Brigade communication wires the enemy played a dastardly trick on several truck drivers by stealing the keys to their vehicles. Especially unfortunate was Pvt. J. P. Sudduth of Hq. Detachment, 1st Battalion, 167th Inf. The patrol not only took Sudduth's key but turned over a ten-gallon can of water in his truck wetting the bed rolls of the battalion commander and transportation officer. The latter was accidental.

Shoe Tossing Contest Initiated

A horseshoe-pitching contest will be held at the Division service club Saturday afternoon. Prizes are to be offered by the Division senior hostess, Mrs. C. W. Chalker.

Infantry Will Get Practice In Protection Against Aircraft Before Fall Months

Soldiers of the 31st Division will begin pounding the sand in earnest next week as they go into a new, and much discussed, phase of "hardening up." Monday May 26, a series of long marches begin for men of the Southern states as they learn the technique of marching long distances, defense against air attack and the care of men while traveling by foot.

On this date, the 61st Infantry Brigade combat team, less artillery units, will move out of camp on a nineteen mile tactical march. The marching forces will be on the alert at all times and take defensive measures against air attack especially. All the education the infantryman has received at Camp Blanding will be used in this maneuver. The body of troops will move out to Sand Hill Lake, in the vicinity of Keystone Heights and bivouac for the night, returning Tuesday, still employing defensive measures and alertness for offensive moves. This will involve equipment the infantry brigade would use in combat.

On the following Wednesday morning the 62nd Infantry Brigade, less its supporting artillery units will make the same movement, to the same vicinity and return Thursday.

General Persons, speaking to the massed officers of the Division this week, directed them to be sure the men in their units paid particular attention to their shoes and feet before plans were completed for the move, and that no men who were not in condition were to be included in the march. He stated that this will be the first of a series of practice marches. The distance of each march will probably be extended with each succeeding one. Following this first long hike, men of the division will be given Friday and Saturday holidays. Leaves will be granted to extend from Thursday night to taps Sunday night. There will be no Wednesday afternoon holiday, however, on Wed., May 28.

Catholics Get More Facilities

Additional recreational and religious facilities for members of the Catholic faith of the 31st and 43rd Divisions will soon be provided, according to announcements made this week.

Property has been purchased in the name of the Most Rev. Joseph P. Hurley, Bishop of St. Augustine, in Starke for the construction of a \$75,000 building for welfare and recreational purposes. The Church of the Immaculate Conception in Jacksonville is also providing dancing and recreational facilities each Saturday evening at its parish hall, and the same program is held at the Old Cathedral Lyceum in St. Augustine.

Within the Dixie Division itself, six masses are being held every Sunday morning for Catholic worshippers with an estimated attendance of 1,100 each week. A Holy Name Society has also been formed, with an ever-growing membership.

Fifth Column Work Suspected Here

The 156th Infantry was employing all phases of modern warfare including the use of fifth columnists in the opinion of numerous 167th men on the front line opposing the Louisianians during Monday's field problem.

A narrow gap developed between the first and second battalions of the 167th lines. It wasn't long before the 156th poured a reserve company into their line opposite the exact location of the gap.

"They must have fifth columnists in our lines!" was the remark that passed along the Alabama lines. The chief umpire said it looked that way to him also.

THE DIXIE

Official Newspaper of the
DIXIE (31ST) DIVISION
Camp Blanding, Florida

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THE DIXIE is published Saturday of each week in the interest of the officers and men of the 31st Division with publication offices at Press Section, Special Troops Dispensary.—Phone 240.

We owe a lot to the people in towns surrounding Camp Blanding. We have had a lot of work, we have faced a few hardships—both imaginary and real—but it has certainly been a help to know that the neighboring civilians were interested in our entertainment and welfare. A glance at the pages of newspapers will prove this point. Hardly a day passes that some new form of recreation or assistance for the soldier is not offered.

The men of the Division have taken advantage of these offerings, just as they were expected to do, and the results have proven worth the effort put forth. Army Officers, specially chosen for the jobs, have labored unceasingly to put across sufficient means to care for the thousands of men here. And they seem to have made a success of the undertaking.

But they, like the rest of the army, needed the help of the citizen. And they received that help. In every town surrounding this camp, organizations and private citizens have come forth with ideas, plans and concrete evidence of their interest.

Those organizations, too numerous to list in their entirety, have given the soldier a chance to meet young ladies, to visit different points in Florida and learn the sights. The churches have cooperated to the fullest extent in seeing that the soldier had every possible advantage.

As a slight example: The Southside Baptist Church, Jacksonville, had over four hundred soldiers present last Sunday, and every man was given an invitation to dinner by some member of the congregation.

The WPA art center, Jacksonville is presenting "The Mikado," a light operetta Sunday at 4 P. M., purely for the benefit of the man in uniform. There will also be an exhibit of the work of outstanding American artists. This will be free to all.

The Jewish Welfare Board, through the work of its Army and Navy committee invites service men to a dance tonight at the Jewish Temple, Laura and Ashley Streets, Jacksonville.

A dance for soldiers of Mississippi is being given tonight by the Army Y. M. C. A. of Starke, at the Armory there. They describe the entertainment as a gesture of appreciation to the Mississippi citizens who have contributed to the financial side of this and other organizations.

These few instances, aside from being real entertainment to the soldiers, are concrete evidence that citizens are backing the service men from every angle. The lead given by these organizations is always on the elevated side of leisure occupation, too; an appreciable fact about these organizations is that mothers and families of men are encouraged to visit them here, and arrangements are always made to make this easy and convenient to them.

Major Walks; Disturbs Driver

Private Neil Horne, Hq. Det. 2nd Battalion, 155th Infantry, recently graduated from selecteeship, arrived promptly at 7:45, designated time for him to begin his first assignment—driving Major Allen McCleure, commander of the 2nd Battalion.

He parked the car before the Major's tent and waited. At 11 o'clock he was still waiting. Finally in desperation he asked a passing officer had he seen the battalion commander.

"Yes," he was told, "walking rapidly toward the fields—about 7:45."

Painfully, he aimed the car toward the fields, along the way composing himself for the reaming—sure to come—and he had been so anxious to please.

"Oh there you are," said the Major as he manfully stepped forward. "Decided to walk this

morning. Sorry. Should have told you."

Lt. Goes To School

Lt. Ralph C. Crawford, who has served as the 124th Infantry personnel officer during the absence of Capt. Owen W. Griffin, who has been on special duty in the G-1 Section, has been ordered to attend the Infantry School at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

CORRECTION

In an article about the 116th and 117th Field Artillery regiments last week the Dixie made an error in naming Lt. Colonel Arthur B. Jeffries as commander of the 117th. The Dixie asks the pardon of Colonel Percy McClung, who is the regimental commander. Lt. Colonel Jeffries is commander of the 1st Battalion of that regiment.

DANCING SCHOOL POPULAR



Soldiers of the 116th Field Artillery eagerly grasped the opportunity to brush up on their ballroom dancing as a staff of three expert women instructors were imported to spend three nights a week teaching them reater tricks of the art. They do not dance with the instructors, but graduates of the school are in position to sway with the best of them.

STUDENTS WANTED FOR COURSES IN RADIO AND ELECTRICITY

Lt. Col. C. N. Sawyer of the 31st Division Schools announced this week that a competitive examination for enlisted men interested in a basic electricians course in telegraph, telephone and radio will be held at Craftsman Barracks "L" at Gate C Tuesday evening, May 27, at 8:00 A. M. A special appeal is made to soldiers who have studied college physics and mathematics, or those with radio or telephone work experience. Applications for the test must be approved by regimental and separate unit commanders, with the expectation that about twelve candidates will be selected from the division personnel.

The course will extend from June 2 to July 31 and the subjects included are shop work in the test and repair of radio and telephone equipment; use of electric measuring instruments; storage battery charging; review of arithmetic and algebra and functions of angles; electricity and magnetism; and DC and AC electricity.

Applicants from other than communication units who successfully complete the course will be transferred to communication units of the Infantry, Artillery or Signal Corps. None but high school graduates will be considered, and written applications must be first made to organization commanders.

Something New In Ball Clubs

A different type of softball club has been organized in Co. G, 156th Inf. In addition to having all the usual members of a baseball club the pitchers, catchers, etc., the Co. G organization has also a president, treasurer, and various committees. The reason? Well, the boys found that the regimental recreation officer couldn't furnish them with enough equipment and that they would have to buy their own. So they organized a club made up of boys in the company who were interested in baseball and wanted to see their company get ahead and bought their own equipment.

The official name of the group is "The Acadians" . . . named after the home county of the unit in Louisiana. There are several former professional ball players in the club and it is out after regimental laurels.

President and business manager of the club is Sgt. Laurie P. Campbell and the assistant manager is Sgt. Thomas F. Porter. The club elects a captain for each game.

Games Checked Out At Library Now

A game library has been opened on the first floor of the Division Service club and soldiers can borrow games of checkers, dominoes, chess, Chinese checkers, darts, or jigsaw puzzles from the room simply by signing out the games and signing them in when they finish using them. Mrs. J. W. Chalker, senior hostess, said.

Also in the room are a number of popular magazines which are to be had for the asking and which need not be returned, Mrs. Chalker said.

Emergency Fund Trick Used

The enlisted personnel of Company B, 124th Infantry, mostly from Miami, Florida, have followed the example set by Anti-Tank Company of the 155th Infantry and set up a company emergency fund for the use of men suddenly called home when financially "embarrassed." The fund consists of a monthly contribution of not more than ten cents from every man who wants to pay it. A soldier needing money for fare home in time of emergency may borrow the necessary amount from the fund, repaying the amount borrowed on convenient terms. First Sergeant James H. Meer promoted the idea of the emergency fund in the company.

Flip Of Coin Decides Ranking

Five years ago Sergeant Walter C. Bogart and First Sergeant Henry Hill of St. Petersburg joined Hq. Btry., 116th F. A. Both men progressed through the ranks to corporal, sergeant to the point where it was necessary for the battery commander to select a man for the first sergeant post and another for technical sergeant. Both were qualified for the position.

The flip of a coin decided who was to be first sergeant. Sergeant "Buddy Hill" won the toss. Sergeant Bogart was made technical sergeant. Neither were disappointed at what chance had decreed as the positions played the same amount. Recently Sergeant Bogart was made master sergeant, the highest position an enlisted man may hold in the service.

First Private To Come To Blanding

There's a "first" in everything and to Private John H. Reynolds of Jackson, Miss., goes the honor of being the first enlisted man to come to Camp Blanding.

It was all so sudden. On November 25, 1940, Reynolds was inducted into service as a member of the Jackson National Guard. The next day Colonel Harry Hulien, who at present is commanding officer of the 106th Engineers combat regiment, asked Private Reynolds if he wanted to go to Camp Blanding. Reynolds said "yes," and they left immediately for Florida. By way of Hattiesburg, Miss., Birmingham, Ala., and Albany, Ga., Private Reynolds arrived in Blanding on November 28.

Spider-Fly Advance; Captured

Several companies of the 155th Infantry regiment used this new version of the spider and the fly act in a recent inter brigade combat problem.

The soldiers were located in a swamp a few hundred yards from the enemy. As the mock war progressed, a few soldiers trickled through the lines. As soon as an enemy was sighted, the soldiers in the swamp invited them to rest a few minutes in the swamp before trying to locate their main companies. As soon as they were in the swamp they were declared prisoners of war.

Sad Story—

Pvt. William Cole of the Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 114th Field Artillery, is a claimant for the title of the Division's unluckiest man.

Cole's parents had planned to visit him at Blanding over the week-end, but the soldier told them to stand by as he had received approval for a week's leave. He completed five hard days at KP, and was anticipating a pleasant visit home when the order came down, assigning him to guard duty and cancelling his leave. He swallowed his disappointment and reported for guard duty, only to learn that all the posts had been filled. It was impossible for Pvt. Cole to have his leave reinstated and he had already arranged for a substitute in the kitchen, so he had nothing left to do but bemoan the unkind Fates, and he's still doing it.

China Artilleryman Makes Comparison

Loy C. Wong, of Service and Ammunition Battery, No. 1, 116th Field Artillery compares his commanding officer, Captain Earl E. Whitehead to a Chinese War Lord. The Chinese youth, a resident of Central avenue, St. Petersburg recently explained to his superior how he would be conveyed from place to place in his native China.

Private Wong obtained a two wheel cart used for carrying supplies to batteries, and placed a deck chair on it. According to Wong's idea, Captain Whitehead would ride on the deck chair, with himself providing the foot power in the rear.

Aid Station Taken

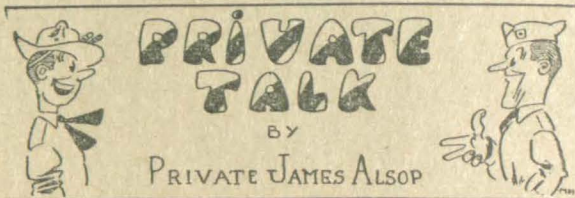
During the course of a recent "battle of the brigades" Lt. Wm. B. Wells and his twenty men of the 167th Inf., were gathered around their 1st Bn., Aid Station, enjoying a lull in the fight. Too peaceful were they to notice the lurking enemy as it swooped down and captured all but four men, three of which were some distance from the station and the fourth who slept soundly in his fox-hole, right in the middle of the station. The enemy didn't even notice him.

First Sgt. Reports Fine Fishing

Company I of the 124th Infantry has a Top Kick who really brings in the fish to stand back of the stories that he tells. This week he ventured off to a place unknown to his company's other fishermen and returned with eleven of the finest big mouth bass anyone could ask to see, one weighing eight and one half pounds. Sgt. Tresca's successful fishing netted in only three of the bass topping the scales at a mere twenty pounds.

Undressed Pvt. Waits For Clothes To Dry

Pvt. Joseph G. Byrd of the Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 114th Field Artillery, is a thorough fellow. So much so that when he readied himself for his weekly washing chores he even tossed in his last remaining clean pairs of socks and underwear into the wash, and so had to wait until the clothes were washed and dried before being able to dress again.



Want an idea for a good birthday present. Ask Pvt. Joseph C. Mayers, Hq. Det., 156th Inf.—and duck. The boys left him a pretty little package, all done up in pink ribbons, when the day of his anniversary rolled around. With great anticipation, the young soldier opened his present, gazing expectantly into the depths of a neat box. It was a flashing gold brick. Might have had a subtle meaning.

It's the height of something or other: Three sad soldiers were returning from a hard day at Jacksonville Beach the other night; they had had long and poor hunting. For hours on end, the men had pounded the sands of the ocean edge, waiting for some fair damsel to wink an unwary eye. But none would make the first move. Hours passed, the sun threatened to disappear, the air grew thin and still our heroes refused to give up hope. Then came fortune, smiling on Pvts. Bob Sowell, Chas. Seale and Laconny Con-treau, all 167th Infantrymen. Three passing beauties figuratively dropped their collective handkerchiefs. The challenge was accepted. The two threesomes became a sixsome and all went merrily toward—a full evening. But time had taken a toll; when the checkup came, the soldiers had exactly three cents between them. And so it goes—even when a soldier wins.

My Gawd—a new Pvt. in the 156th went looking for a fire helmet when assigned to fire duty. They'll be falling for paper stretchers or snipe hunting next.

'N what about that other happening in the same Louisiana Regiment. A certain Sergeant was screaming: "In Cadence, count." He noticed a young soldier seemed over-vealous in his endeavours. He approached the object of his attention. "And why, may I ask, is your shouting so loud?" "Why Sergeant," said the other, "you said all cajuns count."

And then there's Staff Sergeant Klebert Martin, Co. C, 156th. So far, he's turned down three offers of furloughs. Says he has too much work to leave. And we gripe about reveille.

Pvt. Constantin Fernandez, Battery A, 116th F. A. is probably the only pupil who ever had over a hundred teachers for one subject. A product of Ybor City, of Tampa, he had never picked up the English language. Now all of his buddies are trying to help him learn his native tongue. At least it seems you could call it that. He has progressed so far that now he can take orders at the important post of fuse setter in a gun crew.

Sergeant Max Dooley, Med. Det. 116th F. A., has quite an expensive pet. It costs as much for food as does the meals for an enlisted man in this man's army. Forty five cents per day is the quota for "Colonel Big Shot," as fine a Great Dane puppy as can be found in the south.

Another story by that inimitable newshound, Pvt. Edmund Land. This one is his report on Headquarters Co., 156th Infantry. It seems that they go in for quite a few mascots there, including humans. The list is as follows: two half grown chickens, one baby pig, one baby muscovy duck, one tick infested dog and a negro named Charley.

Two husky non-coms of the 155th were sent on a reconnaissance trip to Ocala this week-end to find out just what action the "enemy" was taking. They returned raving about a play—presented by the city primary school. And twin sisters—aged eight.

Private To Go To West Point

Private John McElvery, of E Battery, a resident of Lake Howard Drive, Winter Haven, expects to leave for West Point Military Academy in June. McElvery prepared for the national army academy at West Point Military School at Fort McPherson Ga. He also has a National Guard appointment.

Pi Kappa Alphas To Meet

All Pi Kappa Alphas of the 31st Division are requested to attend a meeting to be held Tuesday night at 8:00 p. m., May 26, in Mrs. Chalker's office at the Division Service Club.

Any Pi Ka's who would like to have dinner at the Service Club that night at 7:00 p. m., contact Sgt. McCoy at 186 or 229, 31st Division Headquarters this week-end.

YMCA Dance For Mississippians

Tonight will be a big evening for Mississippi men stationed at Camp Blanding, as the Starke Y. M. C. A. is having an invitation dance at the Armory, with the 114th Field Artillery Band of 14 pieces providing the swing and sway material. The dance will start at 8:30 and end at 12:00 and is an acknowledgement of the assistance rendered by Mississippi organizations in decorating the Y. M. C. A.

Major Throws Party On Own Boat

The fish dinner party which Major Lester O'Neal, 117th Field Artillery, gave Thursday to "im camp" officers is one of which he might well be proud.

The party was given on the Major's own boat, which he himself had constructed.

The boat was powered by a motor which the Major had personally repaired.

Last but not least . . . the Major caught the fish that were eaten.

Do Airplanes Read Is Privates' Problem

On the recent command post problem when airplanes were swooping, gassing, harassing, Pvt. Herman Smith, Hq. Co., 155th Infantry interestedly watched the system of ground communication to the pilots. That of numbered labels layed out on the ground representing some word or signal.

He nodded acknowledgement of the ground forces duties. "But how," he inquired, "do the airplanes know what they mean?"

Plugger Copes Easy Capture

Corp. Samuel T. Hicks, Headquarters Detachment, 3rd Battalion, 156th Inf., found the "enemy" very obliging in Tuesday night and Wednesday's problem. An unknown infantryman from the 167th walked up to the switchboard where Hicks was on duty, unarmed, and surrendered.

Co.-Cee News, Q. M. Paper

In order to acquaint the members of Company C, 106th Quartermaster Regiment, 31st Division, of the news and unusual happenings which are of interest to the men, a weekly newspaper called the "Co.-Cee News" made its first appearance last week.

The company newspaper is the first of its type to be published in the entire camp and its columns are replete with accounts of events in which the soldiers of Company C are most interested. The paper is mimeographed in the regimental headquarters offices and is edited by Pvt. Mitchell C. Tackley.

So enthusiastic was the reception of the initial issue of the publication that the paper is being doubled in size this week. One of the sheet's most popular features is a column called "Company Talk" in which members of the outfit are given first hand information on rumors, "off the street" happenings and current gossip among the soldiers.

"Chaplain Rose Day" For Special Troops

Sunday has been designated as "Chaplain Rose Day" for members of the 31st Division Special Troops, for on that day they will welcome 1st. Lt. Chaplain Ben Lacey Rose as their spiritual director. His assignment gives the Special Troops a full-time chaplain for the first time since their organization.

The new chaplain will conduct two services, one at eight a. m., for members of the Catholic faith and another at ten o'clock for Protestants.

Chaplain Rose is a native of Fayetteville, North Carolina, and was graduated by Davidson College, N. C., and Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. He served as pastor of the Chinquapin Presbyterian Church, Chinquapin, N. C., for three years previous to his assignment to Army service.

Band Concert To Be Big Event

The Dixie Band Association of the 31st Division will present a program Sunday afternoon, May 25, 4:00 P. M., at the fire break between the 106th Medical Regiment and the 114th Field Artillery Regiment. This will be the first concert of the combined Dixie bands and is a rehearsed schedule of marches and concert numbers.

In the eight 31st Division bands and the visiting 179th Field Artillery band over 260 pieces will blend musical notes in the selections to be offered in this event. Mr. George Mackie, formerly music instructor and director at Mississippi College, in Clinton, Mississippi, now senior warrant officer of the division will direct the huge band. Mr. Mackie states that he believes this to be the first undertaking of such a large band of concert numbers.

Participating will be bands from the 114th field artillery regiment, 116th field artillery, 117th field artillery, 155th Infantry, 156th Infantry, 124th Infantry, 167th Infantry, and 106 engineers.

This initial entertainment will be the first of a series of similar concerts for the Sunday afternoon crowds at Camp Blanding. Major General John C. Persons has been invited to be present as the distinguished guest. The public of Jacksonville and neighboring communities is cordially invited to visit the camp for this occasion.

Fitting Shoes Befitting Good Soldier, Pvt. Says

Pfc. Wilmer Robichaux, Co. B, 156th Inf., was complaining to his supply sergeant about the fit of shoes issued by the Army.

"Now, look at this shoe," he complained, "I can't even get my foot in it." I was working as K. P. and the water with which we were cleaning the kitchen has shrunk it."

His hand strayed to the inside of the shoe. "The soles aren't any . . ." and a sheepish look came on his face. "Gosh," he said, "no wonder" . . . and drug forth a wadded up pair of socks.

Buildings Added

In an announcement from the War Department this week, it is stated that Camp Blanding will be enriched in the way of buildings, to the tune of \$79,600, in the near future. Of this \$4,100 will go for an Administration building (we don't know where), \$51,400 for Red Cross Recreational buildings and the remaining \$24,100 for barracks for medical personnel.

Dixie At Play



It's Easy Just Leave

Pleasantly surprised when he returned from a weeks' leave Wednesday morning was H. W. Larcade, Co. I, 156th Infantry. All the boys of his company were addressing him as "Sir."

You see, before he left he was Sgt. Larcade, platoon sergeant; when he returned he was Second Lt. H. W. Larcade, with privileges of an officer. Even though he was expecting the promotion, he didn't know that it had come through until he walked on the company street Wednesday morning.

Troops With Brains Also Buck Line

Skeptics who don't think the personnel of command posts see any brain action should talk with the men of 1st battalion command post, 167th Inf.

Monday on field maneuvers an umpire truck dashed up and started to plant an artillery flag showing the zone marked to be under artillery fire. Before the flag orderly could get out of the truck there were men dashing madly in all directions with the result that not a "casualty" was sustained. Chaplain Richard Wolcott was among those almost "blown up." He lost a dispatch case as he led the sprint away from the "danger" zone.

Newspaper Staff Throws Party

Twenty-five members of the staff of the DRAGON, official weekly newspaper of the 114th Field Artillery Regiment, enjoyed an outing to historical spots at St. Augustine Wednesday evening. The Mississippi boys also went swimming and boating, had themselves a good dinner, took in a movie show and returned to Camp in the evening before Taps.

St. Augustine Bishop Will Speak To 156th

Catholic soldiers of Louisiana's 156th Inf. are to hear Bishop Joseph T. Hurley, of the St. Augustine diocese, Sunday in their recreation hall according to Lt. William J. Keown, Catholic chaplain of the unit.

Bishop Hurley, who is very much interested in the religious activities at Camp Blanding, will make a tour of all chapels during his two-day stay here. In the absence of Chaplain Keown, who will be on leave, the bishop will be entertained by Lt. Patrick Nolan, chaplain of the 116th field artillery.

Private Makes Final Arrangements; Returns

When the 31st (Dixie) Division held its "all-out, black-out" maneuver last week, it didn't scare Pfc. Nicholas Rizzo, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 156th Inf., . . .

As soon as he had gotten all his things packed Pfc. Rizzo sat down and wrote his mother a letter. The letter:

"Dear Mother, Well, it's come. I sit here with all my things packed waiting for the final order to come that'll move us . . . God knows where. If you don't hear from me in the next few weeks, remember that I've always loved you . . . Nick."

P. S. The Division returned to camp the following day, as per schedule.

Applications Pass Headquarters Post

Three men of the 124th Infantry were named this week for the Officers Candidate School to be at Fort Benning this summer. They were Corporal E. Steve Yates, a former city editor of a daily newspaper, Sergeant John A. McInnis of Company A and Master Sergeant Curtis H. Benet of the Service Company.

Long Term Sgt. Leaves Division

The 31st Division lost one of its oldest first sergeants in years of service when Top Kick Joe Michel, Co. B, 156th Inf., retired after 12 years with the National Guard and the Army.

Sgt. Michel, who enlisted as a buck private in 1926, was presented an engraved watch bearing the inscription: "Presented to Mickey from the boys of Co. B,"—in a short ceremony at the noon mess Sunday by the men of his unit.

Sgt. Norman Stansbury will take Sgt. Michel's place as first sergeant.

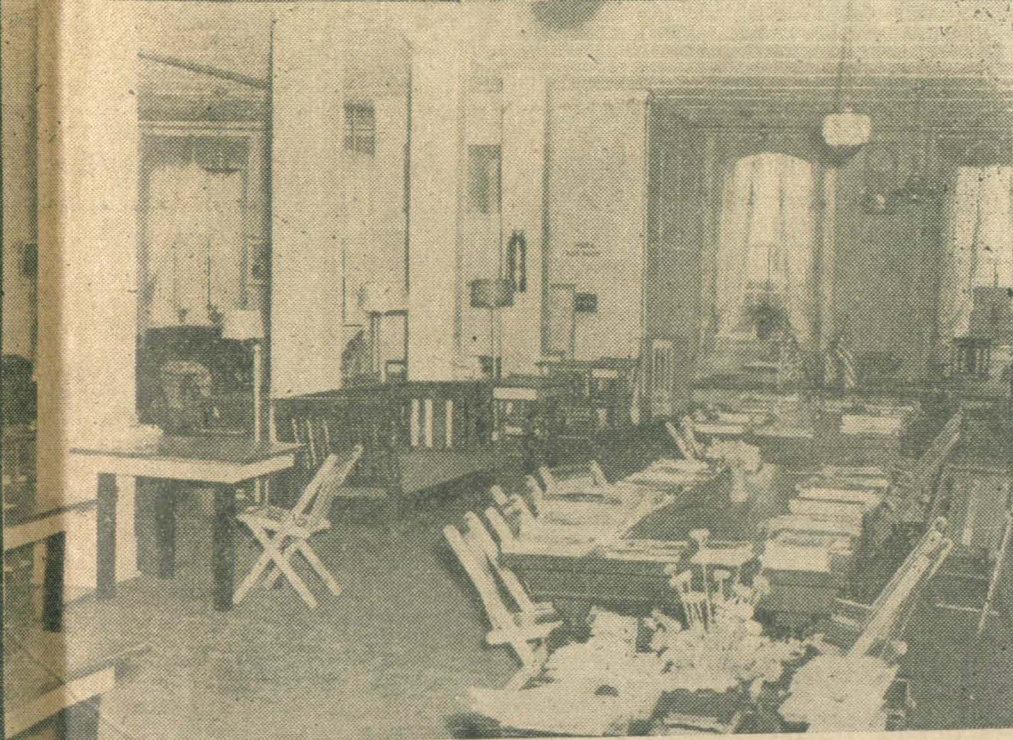
Also honored in the presentation ceremonies was Sgt. Joseph Dianfala, who is retiring after six years of service with the company. He received a fountain pen.

Song-Fest For Eng'rs. And Medicos.

On Tuesday night, the 106th Engineers combat regiment entertained at a community song-fest. Featuring the big doings in the recreation hall was Miss Rose Marie Conway of Jacksonville. Using the Army Song Book, which was recently given to all soldiers in Camp Blanding, Miss Conway led the engineers and medics with her mocking bird voice.

Dentist Drives Hard, But Without Teeth

Lt. William H. Smith, recently arrived for duty with the Medical Detachment, 155th Infantry, had to summons all of his fortitude and zeal to overcome ironical situations for his first few days of addressing dental students here. While delivering his daily lectures to the boys on the proper manner of brushing and otherwise caring for the teeth, mentally he was wondering just where lay his own, lost the day of his arrival.



This group of pictures shows a few of the many leisure facilities of the 31st Division. Top right is a picture of the Division Dramatic Club in action, mapping out plans for a production. Bottom right is a view inside one of Jacksonville's contributions to Blanding soldiers, the Armed Service Center on Forsyth street. Top left an Alabama soldier-and-sweetheart dance to the lilting melodies of the 167th Regimental orchestra on the night of "Sweethearts of Alabama" week-end. They are Tech. Sgt. Franklin and Miss Minor, both of Birmingham, Ala. Bottom left is a scene in a mess hall; Mrs. Veronica Taylor and other Camp Hostesses have lunch with soldiers.

Eerie Hobby As An Alternative

Private Ben Tice of 116th Field Artillery Band has an unusual hobby. Tice has been collecting skulls of different animals for more than five years.

He developed his avocation as a youngster when he filled his home with all sorts of pets. His mother objected to extension of his hobby. Later he caught snakes. His mother soon discouraged this. Determined to have the animals in some form, Tice began collecting skulls. His collection is so complete that it is on display at a Tampa High School.

Loving Corporal's Squad Kiss G'Night!

He doesn't mind "mothering" the men of his squad, says Corp. Rubel Belanger, of Co. C, 156th Inf., but the thing can be carried a little too far.

For the past few nights, Belanger's tentmates have seen the squad silently troop in and kiss their squad-leader goodnight.

Sketches Buddies For Comics

All over Camp Blanding are boys who are very proficient at the gentle art of sketching their "buddies. Among the promising cartoonists is Private Sam Horton, who is connected with Company C of the 106th Engineers. Private Horton has submitted drawings to the Army and Navy Comics magazine in New York City.

Stirring Story

Master Sgt. James Crosby of Reg. Hq. Battery, 114th Infantry, brings back this one from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, from where he recently returned after taking a course in communications. An inspecting officer requested a private to open his locker in which was a miscellaneous disarray, which jarred the "IO" no little. Looking again at the locker's contents and then at the undisturbed recruit, the official queried, "Soldier, what do you stir with?"

Machine Reassures Artillery Sgt.

Sergeant Franklyn G. Brinker of Headquarters Battery 116th Field Artillery, was quite amused at this subtle humor: The sergeant while enroute from his home in St. Petersburg, stopped in Ocala. While there he weighed himself. It seems there is a device on the machine whereby the person may ask a question and when the weight registers, the answer appears.

Sergeant Brinker asked this question: "Will I make a fortune?" A second later the answer appeared: "Not in your present occupation." Brinker knows that. He earns about \$60 a month as a non-commissioned officer.

Englishman Clerk In Uncle Sam's Army

Private Henry Hewer, new headquarters clerk of the 1st Battalion, 124th Infantry, is a man whose interests lie with two countries—America and England. The elongated clerk, who has taken out his first citizenship papers, has two brothers fighting for the British cause—one in service in Libya and the other somewhere in England. Henry was a junior hotel executive before entering the service, holding high positions with such institutions as the Roney-Plaza in Miami Beach and the Ambassador in New York. He is finding Army life and grub difficult to take, he states, but, as his mates in Headquarters Company say, "he's learning to like it—fast."

Medico Training Shows Results

The 167th Infantry medics had an opportunity to demonstrate their skill Monday in the field when Charles McClellan of Company "D" suffered a snake bite. The efficient manner in which Pvt. Bruce Mitchell and Karl S. Byerly treated the bite demonstrated to the men that their health and well being is in capable hands.

Send a copy of THE DIXIE home to the folks—it will convey to them more news about the camp than you could possibly write in a letter.

Post Exchange

(Continued from page one)

according to the authorized enlisted strength. The 31st Division units are represented in the Camp Exchange Council by five regimental commanders who are deeply interested in the welfare of the enlisted personnel and are business men of the first order.

The main purpose of the Exchange System is to provide the troops at convenient locations with articles of ordinary use, wear and consumption at the lowest possible prices. The secondary purpose is to provide means of improving the company messes through dividends. The Exchange is now filling its main purpose and within the next thirty days should be in a position to begin paying dividends to the various units holding shares.

With the purpose of the Exchange in mind, plans are now being formed to serve the 31st Division in the field during maneuvers. Service will be provided as far as practicable with the facilities available during maneuvers in the Camp Blanding area.

In undertaking to supply the normal needs of a city of 50,000 wage earners, the Camp Exchange has assumed an obligation fraught with many problems. Picture a city of seventy-five to one hundred thousand with fifty thousand wage earners and you have an idea of the enormity of consumption of articles of ordinary use and wear which are distributed through regular channels. In such a city, several hundred business concerns of various types would be in order with the attending taxes, rentals and the cost of utilities. Army efficiency has not only reduced the number of installations in order to most economically distribute the merchandise required by its soldiers but absorbs the normal cost of taxes, rents and utilities by providing buildings, heat, light and water, without cost, for the benefit of the enlisted personnel. The Camp Exchange keeps approximately \$10,000.00 cash circulating at all times for change and stamps. The branches are now providing from \$500.00 to \$800.00 worth of stamps daily to the command as a service, without profit. Credit is extended to the enlisted men by the use of exchange coupons to the tune of \$70,000.00 monthly, thereby offering a service to the rank and file who really need credit. As a convenience to the officers, credit is extended on their signatures. Such credits usually run from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00 a month. Consider the happy wives and sweethearts when they receive over \$600.00 worth of Easter flowers handled by telegrams, a service rendered by the Camp Exchange. Soldiers and officers of Camp Blanding, remembered and honored their mothers by spending more than \$1,000.00 for telegrams last Mother's day.

The Camp Exchange provided this service and thereby many a boy's mother dried her tears and rejoiced with her son in the glory of serving his country. On the last pay period many branches provided merchandise and service to the personnel of the camp in excess of \$2,000.00, in a single day. Not all pay is spent in the camp, however. Many of the boys are thrifty. Money orders in excess of \$15,000.00 were purchased from the money order agency at the Main Exchange. With Military Police much in evidence, the exchange did a veritable banking business during the recent pay period, changing and recharging the tens and twenties the boys received in the pay line. \$25,000.00 in small change doesn't last long when Uncle Sam has just paid off.

The business of the Exchange is to serve and it is serving well as evidenced by the use that is made of its facilities. When the troops move into the field the facilities will be limited but the men will truly appreciate the service of the exchange when it reaches them after a hard day's march. Men are appreciative, and soldiers are men.

Time To Jax By Bus To Be Cut

Within a week or ten days, the running time for the Orange Lines buses to and from Jacksonville will be reduced by approximately forty minutes when repairs to the Route 68 road running through Middleburg will be completed. New schedules with the revised times for the Blanding-Jacksonville run will soon be issued.

The Orange Lines officials also announced that the discontinuance of several early morning runs. These are the 2:00, 3:30 and 6:00 A. M. trips from Camp Blanding to Jacksonville, and the 1:30 and 4:30 A. M. runs from Jacksonville. Also discontinued is the 3:00 P. M. bus from Jacksonville.

HOWITZERS BOOM AT BLANDING AS FIRING OF 155'S BEGINS

After many weeks of preparation, the big guns of the 114th Field Artillery, the giant 155 howitzers, received their first trials at the Artillery Range near Sand Hill Lake Thursday and Friday. The noise of the Big Bertha was heard from eight to five on both days, with Col. Alexander G. Paxton of the 114th directing the firing operations of eight guns.

The firing batteries used regular ammunition and the high explosives were projected to distances of 5,000 to 6,000 yards, although the range of the guns is from 12,000 to 13,000 yards. The practice sessions, according to Brig. Gen. Sumter L. Lowry's office at the 56th Field Artillery Brigade, of which the 114th F. A. is a part, are designed to give the gun crews experience, with heavy firing and the officers in the conduction of fire.

It is expected that the large-size guns will be used more extensively hereafter, as the summer maneuver time draws closer, but the necessity for range clearance makes the schedule of their firing operations difficult.

They Have A Heart Says This Soldier

Private Dawson Dorris, Hq. Det. 2nd Bn., 155th Infantry, will hear an M. P. abused by no one. On a recent Saturday night excursion to Starke he wound up broke—and sleepy. To a motherly M. P. he told his story.

"Why here, old man," said the brassard of iron, but heart of gold, "take this quarter and go on in." He even put him on the bus.

The private, happy to know there were such nice people in the world curled up and went to sleep. In fact he was still sleeping some two and a half hours later when the bus made the circuit to Jacksonville and back again to Starke. There, as if awaiting him, stood the same M. P.

"Well I'll be dogged, old man," began again the M. P. "You won't do." This time he hailed a ride for Private Dorris.

Top-Kick Takes A Lesson

Stealthily, Sgt. Richard Miller, Service Company, 155th Infantry, crept into the unit's kitchen. Copiously, he measured out portions for his sandwich.

"That will be K. P. for you!" came a belligerent voice as he applied the last morsel of beef. It was 1st Sgt. John Carley.

Doggedly, Miller made his exit, passing through the door and toward the canteen. "But I might as well eat the thing," he reasoned, half-way to the post exchange.

Returned, he found: Sgt. Carley rapidly consuming his own and copiously measuring out portions for another.

Long Way Home Sergeant Finds

A straight line may be the shortest distance between two points . . . but don't ask Sgt. Joseph Valenti to verify it. He led a patrol over twenty miles to cover 20 yards.

Leading a night patrol on a recent maneuver, Valenti, who had been ordered to establish contact with a neighboring regiment 200 yards away, got lost in the woods, and ended up at daylight twenty miles away from his starting point.

He reports failure of the mission.

World War Vet Visits 167th

Dr. A. W. Ralls of Gadsden, Alabama, World War Major in the medical corps was a guest of the officers and men of the 167th Infantry Tuesday. After a visit with Col. Walter M. Thompson, commander of the regiment, Capt. Frank A. Reagan, 1st Lt. Hugh S. Patterson and others the doctor left for Daytona Beach. Mrs. Ralls and their two daughters, Mrs. Thomas Cross and Mrs. O. A. Trawick accompanied the doctor.

Engineer Band Will Continue

If your feet just can't keep still during a jam session of jitterbug jive, you'll be glad to hear that the 106th Engineers band is going to continue its Thursday night concerts.

"Held over by popular demand for another six months," is the good band news prominently displayed at the 106th recreation hall.

Louisiana Sergeant Gets Promoted

Formerly a sergeant, Frank R. Petty of Alexandria, La., is now a second lieutenant with Company M of the 156th Infantry. Over in Company F of the 106th Medics, the new first sergeant is Leon K. Zainey of New Orleans, La. He was formerly in the Div., surgeon's office. He's an ex-technical sergeant, Benjamin Nesmith of Vicksburg, Miss., has been promoted to a corporal in Company B of the 106th Engineers.

AWOL Story, Prize

The prize story of all AWOL's is that of Pvt. Harold McKinney, Anti-Tank Company, 156th Inf. It was all right when McKinney went "over the hill" and it was still O. K. when he stayed away a number of months.

But the height of something was reached a few days ago when a letter was received from McKinney asking for his back pay for the period he'd been gone.

Capt Returns From Ft. Benning School

Captain Don S. Mathews, Hq. Battery, 1st Bn., 117th F. A., returned recently from the small arms school at Fort Benning, Ga., with favorable comments on the new army helmet being used there. He stated that the helmets are fifteen per-cent cooler and lighter than any previously used.

Engineers Not All Giants, Says Half-Pint

Smallest but not by a long shot the puniest man in the division is Private Frank Clegg, Company B, 106th Engineers. Standing, with the added millimeter of stocking, he stretches 5 feet 1-2 inch, and in so doing runs up 106 pounds. But it's all fighting man; for several years he has fought in amateur boxing circles in Harrisonville, Miss., his home town.

Cats Too, Come To Attention

Men of Co. M, 156th Inf., from Alexandria, La., say they have a "pet" story that tops them all . . . They have a cat that stands at attention when "retreat" sounds.

Of course, the feline isn't exactly theirs . . . but they feel that they could claim it. It wanders in every evening just as the company forms for the evening ceremonies and, stiff-legged, faces the company until the bugle notes end, then nonchalantly moves away between the tents.

Returned, he found: Sgt. Carley rapidly consuming his own and copiously measuring out portions for another.

First Sgt. Will Be Flying Cadet

1st Sgt. Homer C. Morgan, Headquarters Detachment, 3rd Battalion, 155th Infantry, leaves here soon for Maxwell Field, Ala., to begin a course as Flying Cadet. From Montgomery, he will be transferred to Pan-American, Inc., Coral Gables, Florida.

"Private Lives"

Given For Medicos

About 400 enthusiastic engineers and medicos crowded into the 106th Regiment recreation hall on the night of Monday, May 19, to see the Little Theatre of Jacksonville present Noel Coward's "Private Lives." The entire cast came over from the Florida city, bringing with them all their props, scenery and costumes on trucks.

Battalion Sees Hefty Action

The second battalion, 167th Infantry saw some real action Monday on field maneuvers according to the report Lt. F. A. Parker sent to the regimental command post.

On his report marked "What is the enemy doing?" in his terse descriptive style the lieutenant wrote "Fighting like hell."

Bible Study Class Formed In 117 F. A.

Major Victor M. Hovis, Chaplain of the 117th Field Artillery, is arranging a series of studies on the book of Revelation which will be given in connection with the religious program of the regiment. Exact date for the beginning of the series hasn't yet been announced.

114th Broadcast Draws 2,200

Although called upon to perform a week ahead of schedule, the 114th Field Artillery Swing Band was a sensation at the weekly broadcast from the 43rd Division Theatre Monday evening before an audience of some 2,200 enthusiastic swing fans.

With the song, "Florida Moon" as its theme, Pfc. Carl M. Johnston's Mississippi musicians went through a repertoire of swing hits which had the audience stomping and stamping throughout and also pleased an uncountable audience which heard the program over the Florida State Network, stations WMBR of Jacksonville and WFOY of St. Augustine being the radio outlets. Pfc. Reeves (Duck) Hutchinson was a sensation with his vocal renditions, and Pvt. Jack Phillips brought down the house with his trumpet solos.

The weekly broadcast from 9:00 to 9:45 each Monday evening will be continued by popular demand, and band units from the 43rd and the 31st will occupy the spotlight on alternate weeks.

Artillery Officers And Non-Coms Visit Benning

Twenty one officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, returned to their posts Wednesday morning after spending two days at Fort Benning, Ga., where they observed new techniques in anti-tank defense tactics.

A revelation was the new 37-mm. gun in action, a weapon which at a distance of 1,500 yards and from a 45 degree angle shoots through one and one-half inches of armored plate. The visitors from the 31st Division also witnessed a demonstration of the rapidity with which anti-tank truck squads can stop their vehicles and take a firing position—seven seconds being the record for this execution. In addition, the students from Blanding attended lectures on anti-tank procedures.

Gas Mask Put To Heavy Duty Task

Private Jack Myers of Hattiesburg, Miss., is an inventive chap. Private Myers, attached to Company H 106th Med. Regt., decided he had used too many crying towels during the process of cutting up onions in the company's mess hall. So what did the thoughtful K. P. do?

He rushed back to his quarters and came back with a gas mask. So his heart to heart cry was changed to smiles, as the fumes drifted harmlessly upward.

That's one way to fool your mess sergeant and save a few tears for the time you'll leave your girl friend back home.

Blanding's Donald Duck Broadcasts

The 156th's own Donald Duck, Pvt. Raymond Hartman, Headquarters Co., presented a short program over radio station WRUF in Gainesville Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m., doing both Donald Duck and Popeye imitations and singing "I'll Be Back in a Year Little Darling" as the movie duck would do it.

Next Sunday he will appear at the Jacksonville Armed Services Center. His sponsor for last week's program was the Starke Y. M. C. A.

Red Flag Here Not Maggies

It has happened in the past, but the soldiers of Battery A, 116th Field Artillery have determined that they will not be embarrassed in the future when there are ladies in or near their living quarters. Sergeant Philip Ainsworth has, with assistance, erected a flag pole and secured a red flag. When the fairer sex comes visiting the flag will be run up the mast, and when this banner is flying the men know they must be fully clothed and must carefully watch their language.

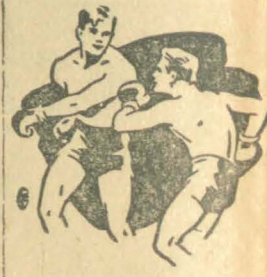
Lt. Leaves For Sill

Lt. Albert B. Marshall, Headquarters 2nd Bn., 117th F. A., left Thursday morning for three months training at Fort Sill Artillery School.

Notice

All former students of Louisiana State University who are interested in forming an alumni club are requested to get in contact with Corp. R. Gordon Moore, Co. A, 156th Inf., or Pvt. Ed. J. Land, Jr., Press Sec., 31st Division.

Technical Sergeant Hugh L. Bryant and Sergeant Madden T. McDaniel, Hq. Company, 155th Infantry, are interested in forming a camp Motorcycle Club. Anyone interested is urged to contact the boys at their company.



Baseball League For Division

Plans were made this week by Captain Ben Hudson, 31st Dixie Division Recreational officer and regimental recreational officers, for a Dixie Division baseball league. Work is now progressing on four baseball fields located opposite Division Headquarters.

It was decided that each regiment is to have a baseball team. Teams are to play a regular schedule, Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

Most regiments have already issued a call for players to try out for the team. It was pointed out in the meeting that accurate statistics are to be kept on each game.

Quartermasters Favor Boxing

Boxing has come into the limelight in the recreational program of the 106th Quartermaster Regiment. Several fighters of the regiment have shown great promise as prospective Golden Gloves champs.

Private "Tommy" Tomlinson, Company C, is undergoing a training program in the heavy-weight class and is receiving coaching from Sgt. Kenneth "Sweet" Bunn, who has had considerable experience in the pugilistic art. Talk about matching Tomlinson with Gomez, the Tampa flash, is prevalent in the regiment.

Others who show promise as boxers of merit are: Pvs. Lamon Gant, and McLeod, all Company C. Men. The matches are held every Monday evening in the regimental area and are under the direction of Capt. William D. Smith.

116th To Learn To Swim

Every man in the 116th Field Artillery is to be taught how to swim within the next six weeks, Colonel Homer W. Hesterly, commanding officer of the 116th Field Artillery stated recently in an order to the Florida regiment.

The order requires that every man be able to swim at least 100 yards using any two strokes he chooses. Those who can not swim the distance are to be given special attention on Wednesday afternoons during the recreation period. The tests are given under the direction of senior life guards in the regiment.

The tests are a precaution against any water accident that may occur in Kingsley Lake which is located on the reservation, or during summer maneuvers.

Baseball Team Co. D, 167th Loses Challenge

The crack baseball team of Company D, 167th Infantry stuck its neck out last week when they challenged all comers to a game. Company I, 156th Infantry cut the Tuscaloosa boys' necks off Wednesday when they defeated Company D 3-2 in as tight a softball game as this camp has seen.

"It was a mistake when we said Company D will play anyone," the defeated players said in true sportsmanship manner, "We should have said Company I, 156th will play anyone. They really have a team."

156th Inter-Regimental Games

In an inter-regimental softball game Sunday morning, Headquarters Company of the 156th Infantry beat Co. L, 124th Infantry 11-9 on the 124th playing field.

Battery for the winning Louisiana team was Sgt. Preston Marx, Pitcher and Pvt. Ernest Jacob and Corp. Mike McGowan, catchers.

Strong Name But Doubtful

Private Alvin York Crowder, Hq. Co., 155th Infantry, besides being a namesake, has other claims for renown.

A check on his registration papers revealed him listed as having been born in four Mississippi towns—Greenwood, Belzoni, Clarksdale, and Cleveland.

"We moved around a lot when I was little," he explained.

DIXIE DIVISION SPORTS



MIAMI HORSE RACING EXPERT BECOMES ARMY PRIVATE HERE



A bugle to Private Frederick Hammer of Company D, 124th Infantry, used to mean the call of the racing thoroughbreds from the paddock to the post at all the Florida and Eastern race tracks, but now it's the instrument that calls him to Reveille, Mess and Retreat, as it does the other thousands of soldiers in the Dixie Division.

Pvt. Hammer, another contribution of Miami to Camp Blanding, has lived almost all his life in proximity to race tracks and will resume his career as assistant timer for the metropolitan and Florida racing association after his year of service. Although born in West Palm Beach, he was moved to Jamaica, Long Island, at an early age and when in his early teens began his association with races and racing men. At 15 Pvt. Hammer was exercising horses, schooling steeplechase mounts and playing in polo contests. He yearned to be a jockey, but parental objections halted him in that pursuit.

Previous to the installation of the Pruett electric starting gate, Fred's job was to recall the jockeys and the horses after a false start from his observation post behind the starting gate. Hammer lived for months, hoping to use his loud siren, but when the fateful day arrived and a horse, Regent by name, did jam in the gate, the field failed to hear Pvt. Hammer's recall siren and completed the circuit of the track. That was the end of the siren and Hammer's job.

With the installation of the Pruett gate, the infantryman made assistant timer to Starter George Cassidy and he flashed the flag that marked the official start of the race. In his travels over the racing circuits, Pvt. Hammer has been closely associated with all the great and near-greats of the turf and Don Meade, outstanding jockey, and Eddie Arcaro, who won the Kentucky Derby aboard Whirlaway this month, are two of his closest friends. And as for the bugle, Hammer doesn't like to hear it any more.

Co. I, 156th Inf., won its seventeenth straight softball game Saturday afternoon on the regimental playing grounds, beating Co. E, of the same regiment, 10-2.

Co. E, 155th Challenges

Company E, 155th Infantry, has a softball team that they think can compete with any team in the 31st Division. Hence, if you aren't so sure, contact their 1st Sergeant.

Pitcher's Duel Opens Season In Special Troops

A pitcher's battle featured the opening of Special Troops new field Wednesday, with Headquarters Company and the Ordnance Company taking their opening league games in "Colonel Haas Park."

The ordnance company, following a ceremony and a perfect strike pitched by Battalion Commander Lt. Col. George A. Haas, had to mass hits in the last frame to nose across the line ahead of a clicking MP squad 1-0. The Headquarters Company won a free hitting contest from the Signal Company 13-9.

114th F. A. Diamondball

Four games were played in the 114th F. A. diamond ball leagues Wednesday and in the quartet of contests the almost unprecedented total of 127 runs was registered. Battery F of the 2nd Battalion ran up the biggest count, 37 runs to Service Battery's 3.

Following is the standing of the clubs:

1st Battalion League			
Team	Won	Lost	Per.
Reg. Hqs. Btry	2	0	1.000
Ser. Battery	2	0	1.000
Battery B	2	0	1.000
Hqs. Battery	1	0	1.000
Battery A	0	1	.000
Battery G	0	2	.000
Med. Detach.	0	2	.000
Battery C	0	2	.000
2nd Battalion League			
Battery F	2	0	1.000
Hqs. Btry.	1	0	1.000
Battery H	1	0	1.000
Battery E	0	1	.000
Battery D	0	1	.000
Ser. Btry	0	2	.000

Wednesday's Results
1st Battalion League:
Reg. Hqs. Btry. 18-Battery C 11.
Ser. Battery 13-Battery G 11.
Battery B 28-Med. Det. 6.
2nd Battalion League:
Btry F 37-Ser. Btry 3.

Another Rob't. E. Lee; Is Archer

Private First Class Robert E. Lee from Headquarters Battery, 116th Field Artillery was appointed archery instructor in his regiment this week. Lee is well qualified for the job, for his hobby is hunting and fishing in this Robin Hood manner. Archery is steadily gaining prominence and popularity throughout the Division, and matches may be arranged in some of the regiments in the near future.

Private Keeps Mum

Pvt. Harry Springer of the 114th Field Artillery is a chap adept at providing ready and witty repartee. When asked at an inspection by his superior officer what he thought of Army life, the Mississippi soldier replied, without batting an eye, "I am reserving my opinion, sir." The inspector proceeded to the next private, without pressing Springer for details.

Have you lost or found something valuable? THE DIXIE will run a notice for you FREE.

CLASSIFIED

LOST—somewhere in camp area, a black leather bill-fold. Initialed M. E. J. Contains valuable receipts. Reward for return.—Pvt. Mack E. Jones, Co. F, 155th Inf.

LOST—female chow puppy, solid black, about five inches high, disappeared last week. If found, please return to Pvt. Eleck Hughes, Battery F, 116th Field Artillery.

LOST—One 21-jewel Bulova wrist-watch. Please return to Sgt. M. M. Batson, Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 114th F. A.

LOST—Wallet containing valuable papers and about fifteen dollars. Finder may keep money if wallet and papers are returned intact. Believed lost in Jacksonville. Return to 1st Lt. C. L. Cheney, Jr., Co. E, 156th Inf., or Division Press Section.

LOST—In St. Augustine: a wallet containing valuable papers. Reward if returned to Corp. Rene LaSalle, Co. G, 156th Inf., or Press Sec., 31st Div.

Q. M. Boxers

In a return engagement which featured the weekly boxing show of the 106th Quartermaster Regiment, Corp. N. T. Smith of Company A, weighing in at 152 pounds, earned a clean-cut decision over Corp. D. M. McLain, Company E, 153.

Other results were: Pvt. R. P. Newchurch, Co. B, 145, decisioned Pvt. M. R. Johnson, Co. C, 147; Sgt. R. E. Goff, Co. B, 135, got the nod over Pvt. Earl Moore, Co. C, 135; Pvt. Harold Mullis, Co. C, gained a technical knockout over Pvt. G. T. Mann, Service Company, in three rounds; Kiki Stanley, Co. E, 150, earned a technical knockout over Pvt. H. C. Gant, Co. C, 151, in two rounds. A special exhibition between two Company C men, Sgt. A. T. George, 163, and Pvt. John Lambert, 160, was well received.

Co. M, 167th Wins

The softball team of Company M, 167th Inf., defeated Anti-Tank of the same regiment Tuesday by a score of 14-10. Cpl. Camper and Sgt. Hulslander were outstanding for the victors. A game between Co. M, and Co. I, of the 156th Inf. would be a "natural."

Cook Is Quite A Cook

Private Alva L. Cook is a cook, appropriately enough, in Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, 116th Field Artillery. He returned recently from school at Fort Dix via rail and gained plenty of practical experience cooking, with eight other cooks, for the 440 northern soldiers aboard the train transferring to Blanding. A special kitchen car was attached to the train.

Movie Double Visits Here

Company "G" of the 167th Infantry was delighted to entertain a famous fellow citizen of Albertville, Ala., in their company street Sunday.

Mr. Roy Thomas, who doubles for the screen star Spencer Tracy, has been working with the cast of "The Yearling" at Silver Springs, Fla., for the past few weeks. He paid his fellow Albertvillians a visit here in camp.